

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA**

ALTHEA L. WATKINS,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

8:17CV463

**AMENDED ORDER SETTING
FINAL SCHEDULE FOR
PROGRESSION OF CASE**

This matter comes before the Court on the Joint Motion to Extend Remaining Deadlines in Scheduling Order ([Filing No. 19](#)). Upon review of the motion, the Court finds good cause to extend case progression deadlines. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that the Joint Motion to Extend Remaining Deadlines in Scheduling Order ([Filing No. 19](#)) is granted, and the case progression deadlines are extended as follows:

1. **Motions to Dismiss and Motions for Summary Judgment.** Motions to Dismiss and/or Motions for summary judgment shall be filed not later than **March 29, 2019**. See NECivR [56.1](#) and NECivR [7.1](#).

2. **Discovery Deadlines: Deposition Deadline.** All depositions, whether or not they are intended to be used at trial, shall be completed by **February 15, 2019**.

3. **Pretrial Disclosures.** Pursuant to [Fed. R. Civ. P. 26\(a\)\(3\)](#), each party shall serve opposing counsel and file a redacted version as applicable with the following information regarding the evidence it may present at trial other than solely for impeachment purposes as soon as practicable but not later than the date specified:

- a. **Nonexpert Witnesses - On or before January 27, 2020:** The name, address and telephone number¹ of each witness, separately identifying those whom the party expects to present and those whom the party may call if the need arises.

¹ In accordance with the E-Government Act, counsel shall, on witness lists, exhibits, and other disclosures and/or *documents filed with the Court*, redact Social Security numbers, home addresses, telephone numbers, and other personally identifying information of witnesses, but shall serve an unredacted version on opposing parties. See NECivR 5.3.

- b. **Deposition Testimony and Discovery** - The designation of discovery testimony and discovery responses intended to be utilized at trial is not required at this time.
- c. **Trial Exhibits - On or before January 27, 2020:** A list of all exhibits it expects to offer by providing a numbered listing and permitting examination of such exhibits, designating on the list those exhibits it may offer only if the need arises.
- d. **Waiver of Objections.** Any and all objections to the use of the witnesses, deposition testimony, discovery responses, or exhibits disclosed pursuant to the above subparagraphs, including any objection pursuant to [Fed. R. Civ. P. 32\(a\)](#) that a deponent is available to testify at the trial, shall be made a part of the pretrial order. Failure to list objections (except those under [Fed. R. Evid. 402](#) and 403) is a waiver of such objections, unless excused by the Court for good cause shown.

4. **Motions in Limine.**

- a. Motions in limine challenging the admissibility of expert testimony at trial under [Fed. R. Evid. 702](#), *see Kumho Tire Co., Ltd. v. Carmichael*, 526 U.S. 137 (1999), and *Daubert v. Merrell-Dow Pharmaceuticals*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993), shall be filed by **March 29, 2019**, and accompanied by a request for a hearing if necessary. Failure to timely move for a hearing may constitute waiver of the request for a hearing.
- b. Any other motions in limine shall be filed on or before **February 3, 2020**.

5. The **Final Pretrial Conference** with the undersigned magistrate judge is set for **February 10, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.**, in my chambers, 111 South 18th Plaza, Suite 2210, Roman L. Hruska United States Courthouse, Omaha, Nebraska. The final pretrial conference shall be attended by lead counsel for represented parties. Prior to the pretrial conference, counsel shall complete all items as directed in NECivR [16.2](#).² By the time of the pretrial conference, full preparation for trial shall have been made so that trial may begin immediately thereafter. The pretrial conference will include a discussion of settlement, and counsel shall be prepared through investigation, discovery and communication with clients and insurers, if any, to discuss fully the subject of settlement, including realistic expectations about liability, obstacles to agreement, offers made, and offers which can be made at the conference. Counsel shall be prepared to make additional offers or proposals for settlement in behalf of their clients at the pretrial conference, and counsel shall be prepared to make or opine on recommendations for further negotiations and conferences.

² All personal information should be redacted from the public version of the order and/or attachments filed with the Clerk. *See* NECivR 5.3.

6. **Mediation and Settlement:**

- a. If the parties intend to mediate their dispute, **notice of the mediation** shall be given to the staff of the assigned magistrate judge's office. The filing of a mediation reference order will terminate pending motions, without prejudice to refiling. If the mediation is not successful, the moving party may reinstate such a motion by filing a written notice to that effect, and the other parties may respond in accordance with the local rules, regarding the date of the notice as reinstating the response/reply time that remained as of the date the mediation reference order was filed.
- b. Not later than **two weeks prior to trial**, plaintiff or plaintiff's counsel shall serve on defendant or defendant's counsel a written, updated settlement proposal. Defendant or defendant's counsel shall respond in writing to such proposal not later than one week before trial.
- c. **Notice of settlement** shall be given to the trial judge's office as soon as practicable but in any event in time to avoid summoning a jury. If a case settles and notice of settlement is not given in sufficient time to avoid summoning a jury, assessment of jury costs may – and normally will – be made against a party and/or counsel for one or more of the parties. For purposes of this paragraph, a jury is considered summoned for a trial at noon the business day prior to the designated date of trial.

7. **A four (4) day Jury trial** is set to commence, at the Court's call, during the week of **March 2, 2020**, in **Omaha**, Nebraska, before the **Honorable Joseph F. Bataillon**, Senior United States District Judge. Unless otherwise ordered, jury selection shall be at the commencement of trial.

8. **Motions to Alter Dates.** All requests for changes of deadlines or settings established herein shall be directed to the assigned magistrate judge by appropriate motion, including all requests for changes of trial dates. Such motions shall not be considered in the absence of a showing by counsel of due diligence in the timely development of this case for trial and the recent development of circumstances, unanticipated prior to the filing of the motion, which require that additional time be allowed.

Dated this 26th day of November, 2018.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Michael D. Nelson
United States Magistrate Judge